



255 Berlin Street, East Berlin

1884

Edward Honiss (1866-1927) & Cora Clark (1869-1953)

Victorian

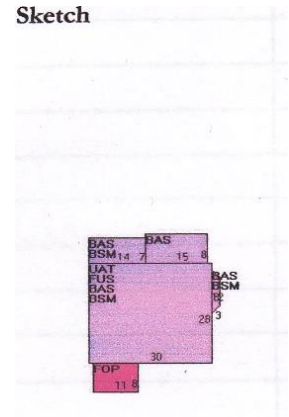
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut.

1893 Edward Everett Honiss present owners Edwin & Edith Benson Victorian
A grocer, family owned flour & grist mill

Sketch

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1884 present owners: Rollo & Eloise Plumley



Historic Buildings of Connecticut

Edward Everett Honiss (1866-1927) operated a grocery and general merchandise store in East Berlin. He was one of a series of men who had run the store, as described by Catharine Melinda North in her History of Berlin (1916): From the time as far back as the memory of the oldest living person

goes, a prosperous store has been conducted at the stand south of the Freedom Hart place, which for many years has borne the sign of Henry N. Galpin. Names obtained of those who have been at the head of the business here are as follows: Orrin Beckley, about 1810; Samuel Porter (died 1838, aged eighty-eight); Horace Steele & Dr. David Carpenter; Plumb & Deming, 1835; Benjamin Wilcox; S. C. Wilcox; Galpin & Loveland; Henry N. Galpin; Strickland Bros., and lastly E. E. Honiss. This store formerly carried a line of everything that the community might need, including drugs. Physicians' prescriptions were compounded here until, by mutual agreement, H. N. Galpin surrendered his drug department to Alfred North, who, in exchange, gave up the sale of his drygoods to Mr. Galpin. The Honiss family also had interests in a flour and grist mill. E.E. Honiss' substantial Queen Anne house, built around 1893, is located at 255 Berlin Street in East Berlin.

Genealogy

Edward Everett Honiss (1866-1927), son of James and Rachel (Dudley) Honiss of Rocky Hill, married Cora Clark (1869-1953), in April 1894, had children: Lillian, Esther, Cora, Doris, Lillian, and died in 1927 with burial in Maple Cemetery. Cora died in 1953 and is buried in Maple Cemetery.



Left to Right - Francis Deming, E.E. Honis, John Weber, C.L. Atwood

Honis Store

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

#007

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR, SPECIFY
☐ S ☐ NR	☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION		DESCRIPTION	
1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		(Historic)	
Edward Everett Honiss House			
2. TOWN CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Berlin	East Berlin	Hartford	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		17-2/133/22	
255 Berlin Street			
4. OWNER(S)		East Berlin 06023 ☐ Public ☒ Private	
Edwin E. & Benson, Edith			
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Residence		Residence	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: ☒ Yes ☐ No		EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☐ Yes ☒ No	
		INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No	
		IF YES, EXPLAIN	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Victorian Vernacular		c. 1893	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
☒ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☒ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone ☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone ☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____			
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon ☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel ☐ Other (Specify) _____			
10. ROOF (Type)			
☐ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth ☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☒ Other (Specify) Central hip, side gables (Material) ☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street ☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Ridge parallel to the street			
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
2 1/2		31' x 29'	
12. CONDITION (Structural)			
☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated (Exterior)			
13. INTEGRITY (Location)			
☒ On original site ☐ Moved ☐ Yes ☒ No WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN			
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) _____ ☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden			
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site ☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☒ High building density			
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			
At north end of large Victorian' neighborhood.			

DESCRIPTION (Continued)	17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)	
	The Edward Everett Honiss House features a gabled facade with a single oversized bay with paired windows. Windows are generally fitted with 1-over-1 sash. There is a Tuscan-columned entry porch on the first floor. The gable peak has fishscale shingles below small rectilinear panels in offset courses. There is a vergeboard with diamond blocks in a central recessed panel on simple jigsaw brackets. Above the ridge of this gable, the roof rises to a small pyramidal peak. To the right is a cross-gable with a single oversized bay. The gable peak is almost identical to that on the facade. To the right rear is a one-story semi-hexagonal bay. There is a one-story gabled extension to the rear of the house.	
SIGNIFICANCE	18 ARCHITECT	BUILDER
	19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE The Edward Everett Honiss House is a well-preserved example of Victorian Vernacular architecture, which is characterized by its exuberant use of the ornamental woodwork made affordable by 19th-century advances in woodworking technology. The decorative shingles, panels, and vergeboard of the gable peak are all typical features. In this example, the asymmetrical massing and the small pyramidal peak of the roof suggest a minor Queen Anne influence. But in general plan, the house resembles a scaled-up version of the so-called "homestead" house, a durable 19th-century design characterized by a tall, narrow profile, a front-facing gable, and one or more gabled side ells. Edward Everett Honiss, a grocer, built this house about 1893. Honiss' grocery business probably benefited from family interests in a flour and grist mill. This relatively substantial house reflects his status as a business proprietor.	
SOURCES	1900 Census Berlin Land Records 44:224 (1893) Gazetteer, p. 22.	
PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER HRC	DATE 11/84
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE D18
COMPILED BY	NAME Historic Resource Consultants	
	DATE 12/84 The Colt Armory 55 Van Dyke Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106	
20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS		

